

GREENBELT News Review

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MARCH 29, 2007

Lucy Flam – Former Russian Refugee Enjoys Retirement in Greenbelt

by Sandra A. Lange

Lucy Flam moved to Greenbelt in 2003 with her husband, Eli. At that time she had worked for the Voice of America (VOA) for over 40 years. In her last position with VOA, she led the large Russian cultural branch, supervising several hours of daily programs and some 30 staffers and freelancers.

Since retiring from the VOA in 1993, Flam has devoted herself to three major book projects. Eight years ago she began Books for Russia. Together with two former colleagues, a former classmate and three other people, she has collected and shipped more than 100,000 donated books and other publications to Russia. Most of the books had been written and published outside of Russia by Russian émigrés and were previously unavailable to the general readership of the country.

The books are now accessible to readers and scholars at the Russian Diaspora Library and Study Center. The first two shipments of 20-foot-long containers were paid for by the American



Lucy Flam

Embassy in Moscow; subsequent shipments were paid for by the Diaspora Library.

Since her retirement Flam also has written two books. Both, in Russian, were published in Moscow. The first one, “Vicky, the Princess Vera Obolensky,” Flam described as a heroic and tragic tale of the woman who was married to Flam’s first husband’s uncle. “Vicky and my husband’s uncle both joined the French Re-

sistance against German occupation,” she observed.

“Both were eventually arrested. He survived a Nazi concentration camp, while Vicky was imprisoned, tried and decapitated at age 33.” That book is in its second printing.

Flam’s most recent book was published in November 2006. Called “The Lives of a Generation,” it presents the experiences of Russian émigrés prior to and during World War II as well as their subsequent achievements in America and elsewhere.

Early History

Lucy Flam was born Ludmilla Tchernova in Riga, Latvia. Both sets of her grandparents had fled to Latvia from Russia following the 1917 revolution. They were part of a large community of Russian nobility, landowners and intellectuals who escaped communism and sought refuge in Latvia.

“One of my grandfathers was an entrepreneur, the other was a son of a senator and had an

See **FLAM**, page 5

Owners of The Hanover Support City Interests in Co-op Housing

by Thomas X. White

Follow-up discussions on a proposal to locate senior housing on the site of the Greenway Village apartments were conducted at a Greenbelt City Council worksession on March 14 with Federal Capital Partners (FCP), new owners of the project. The proposal had been first introduced to council at a December 13, 2006, worksession with FCP where they outlined plans for redeveloping the property they had purchased last summer.

FCP told council then that they were pursuing two phases of the project: a phased renovation of all existing apartments and construction of a new senior housing component on the site currently occupied by the development’s swimming pool and small clubhouse. The site is adjacent to Hanover Parkway and just outside the city limits.

The phased renovation of the apartment buildings and grounds has now already begun and the project has been renamed from Greenway Village Apartments to “The Hanover.”

Because plans for the age-restricted, market-rate senior housing component are dependent on the intricacies of Prince George’s County’s zoning laws that require a special exception process for locating a senior building in its current R-18 zone, FCP seeks the

support and assistance of the city for that portion of the project.

Text Amendment

Specifically, FCP is considering a zoning text amendment that would permit the R-18 zone to allow senior housing within the zone. If such a text amendment were adopted, FCP would be required to go through a Detailed Site Plan (DSP) process that would be just as rigorous as the special exception process but would allow more influence by the City of Greenbelt.

This process was the reason for the December 13 worksession; the purpose of the March 14 worksession was to follow up on concerns raised in December by individual councilmembers.

Attending the worksession were the mayor and all members of council; City Manager Michael McLaughlin; Assistant City Planner Terri Hruby; Lacy Rice, partner of FCP; Sam Glass, associate of FCP; Larry Taub, attorney with O’Malley, Miles, Nylan & Gilmore, representing FCP; and Ken Dunn of Loiederman Soltesz Associates, also retained by FCP.

Also attending were Alan Turnbull and Michelle Touchet of the Friends of Still Creek (a small tributary that runs adjacent to the FCP property and goes under the I-95/495 highway into the Greenbelt National Park property

and eventually making its way to the Anacostia River) and Sheldon Goldberg of the Greenbelt East Advisory Council and a member of the Greenbelt Advisory Planning Board.

FCP Report

FCP Partner Lacy Rice outlined the results of market analyses and followed up on several leads provided earlier by council and city staff. FCP had investigated possibilities suggested by council for either cooperative ownership, condominiums or subsidized senior housing regimes for the planned senior housing project.

The consensus assessment, based on their follow-up, was that “the co-op/condo market was soft and the needed economies were not present to accomplish their plans other than by market rate rental for the planned senior housing component.” Most results of the FCP investigation of the city-suggested alternatives had been laid out in a January 18 letter from Rice to the city manager.

Councilmembers were not happy with the results presented. Either they reiterated their preference for anything other than a market rate rental option for the senior housing units or more generally

See **HANOVER**, page 11



PHOTO BY BILL CORNETT

Firefighters worked almost four hours Monday morning putting out the fire at 9116-9118 Edmonston Court.

Electrical Problems Cause Fires in SHL Apartments

by James Giese and Barbara Hopkins

By Tuesday evening, thousands of Springhill Lake residents were homeless or without electricity or nervous and on edge as a result of a series of fires that took place in the massive garden apartment complex on Monday and Tuesday, March 26 and 27.

Three buildings were seriously damaged by fire at an estimated cost of \$1.5 million. No injuries were reported, however. Six buildings were evacuated and the residents left temporarily homeless (the additional three buildings that were evacuated as the result of their sharing common utility services with the three that were damaged). With most Springhill Lake buildings having 11 units

to a building (while buildings are adjoined with common side walls to others, each cluster of apartments with a common building entrance is considered one building), approximately 66 families have needed to find other accommodations. While many are staying with family and friends, Springhill Lake management and the Red Cross have helped others to find accommodations in hotels or elsewhere.

Power Supply

The multiple fires, the result of overheated wiring bringing the electrical power supply into the buildings, caused fire officials to

See **FIRE**, page 6

SHA Reopens US1/MD201 Corridor Project Study

by Thomas X. White and James Giese

A project newsletter mailed last week to organizations and individuals on the Maryland State Highway Administration’s (SHA) interest lists announces the resumption of project planning for the US Route 1/MD 201 (Kenilworth Avenue/Edmonston Road) Corridor Study from MD 198 (Laurel) to I-95/I-495 (Capital Beltway).

Following an informational public meeting in the spring of 2002 on a range of alternatives to address the increasing congestion occurring in the corridor and to support planned economic devel-

opment, the project was deferred pending resolution of funding issues and other project priorities.

The corridor is shown as a large peanut-shaped segment with the top at the Route 198 area of Laurel, I-95 and the Ammen-dale and Beltsville areas on the West, the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) and Vansville areas on the east, the existing Route 1 and the railroad down the center and the southern end in the vicinity of the Beltway and Cherrywood Lane.

See **SHA STUDY**, page 11

What Goes On

Saturday, March 31

9 to 11 a.m., Potomac Watershed Cleanup – Greenbelt Lake – Meet in the Playground Area of Buddy Attick Park. Springhill Lake Stream – Meet Behind Springhill Lake Recreation Center

Sunday, April 1

1 to 5 p.m., Artful Afternoon, Community Center

Tuesday, April 3

7 p.m., Public Safety Advisory Committee Meeting, Community Center

Wednesday, April 4

8 p.m., City Council Budget Worksession – Planning and Community Development, Capital Projects, Community Center

Letters to the Editor

Residents Thank Patti Brothers

I was very dismayed to learn that Greenbelt animal control officer Patti Brothers is no longer the city's [assistant] animal control officer (ACO).

Ms. Brothers has a deep love and commitment to the city of Greenbelt. She has worked sacrificially for years as president of the Labor Day Festival, which probably would not have continued to the present day without her involvement. She has also been instrumental in the Greenbelt New Year's Eve celebration since its inception and she has been actively involved in the city's annual Pet Expo. She was even named Greenbelt's Citizen of the Year just a few years ago. That recognition was well deserved.

Marilyn Ridley

A couple of years ago a groundhog and I just didn't agree on where his winter home should be. Not knowing how to gracefully remove this cute little creature I asked Patti Brothers for help. The same day we talked she was at my house and we figured out a solution. Our idea did not work but fortunately the groundhog left on his own. At this time Patti was working full time with the U.S. Government but still found time to help solve my problem.

For years Patti has helped the residents of Greenbelt deal with animal issues as well as serving on committees to help make this a better community. That is why she was selected Citizen of the Year.

Pat Hand

How saddened I was to read the farewell letter to all of us from Patti Brothers, who recently resigned her post with the Greenbelt Animal Control Department!

I've lived next to undeveloped land in Greenbelt East since 1988 and over the years have had numerous occasions to request help from the city's animal control folks. Never before have I had such pleasant, courteous and helpful assistance from someone so competent and well-suited to the job! Ms. Brothers obviously has a great attachment to – and rapport with – the many four-footed (and two-winged) creatures that live within the city limits. I found her energy and commitment to the job to be remarkable.

I want to thank Ms. Brothers publicly for the extraordinary help she recently gave me. She quickly responded to phone calls, made herself available at unusual times and generally speaking "went the extra mile."

My guess is that Patti Brothers will be greatly missed.

Linda R. Tokarz

Send us a letter to share with your neighbors about your observations, concerns, gripes and accolades about local issues.

Letters must contain your name and contact information and their publication is left solely to the discretion of the News Review.

THANKS

I'd like to express my gratitude to several people for their help in the recent snow/ice storms.

First to Michael Hudson of Crescent Road, who has dug out my car, plus cleared a sidewalk each time. I'd also like to thank another neighbor, Ann Donnellan, for cleaning off my car on Wednesday, February 14. What a sweet Valentine's present.

I want to express my gratitude to Gwen Worley of City Hall and Willy Davis, code enforcer. Each listened patiently to my pleas for help during the ice storm of February 12-13. They did what they could to help me during that period.

I have lived on Crescent Road since 1998. As always, I have found very supportive people in City Hall and in the neighborhood. It is the best reason for my wanting to spend the rest of my days in Greenbelt. As a native Prince George's County girl, I've lived in many towns in Northern Prince George's County. Greenbelt is by far the best place.

Pat Magruder

THANKS

The members of Greenbelt Pottery, Inc. would like to extend our thanks to the community for making our latest Empty Bowls event a huge success. We raised \$5,205 for Help By Phone with your support.

A big thank you to the Greenbelt Community Church for hosting the event and for all the work the folks there did cooking, cleaning and their donations of food and supplies.

We are so pleased that we can have such a wonderful, fun event that does so much good for our community. Thank you!

Gina Mai Denn,
President
Greenbelt Pottery, Inc.

Kudos for Coverage Of Greenbelt Women

I am writing to commend the News Review for your excellent weekly series of articles in March about Greenbelt women in commemoration of Women's History Month. The women you profiled are making important contributions in a range of fields and their leadership is inspirational.

Women's History Month is a special time for all of us to honor women in our families, communities, organizations and workplaces for accomplishments that often go unrecognized. Congratulations to the News Review for bringing these stories to life. We look forward to including stories of Greenbelt women in the Maryland Women's Heritage Center, which is being developed as the first state-based women's history museum and learning center in the nation.

The Center is currently conducting a public awareness campaign – Women of Wonder – which provides an opportunity for individuals to write about important women in their lives and to submit their writings to the Heritage Center's new website at www.mdwomensheritagecenter.org.

Greenbelters are encouraged to visit the website for more information and to participate

by honoring women during this campaign, which extends through March to Mother's Day in May.

Linda Shevitz, Coordinator,
Maryland Women's
History Project

Donations Will Buy Pet Oxygen Masks

On behalf of the GHI Companion Animal Committee, I'd like to thank those of you who so generously donated to help equip area fire trucks with oxygen masks for cats, dogs, birds and other animals (in the event of a brush or forest fire, the masks work on wildlife too). The committee is thrilled to announce that we have raised enough money to outfit almost all of the fire stations in our vicinity – starting with Greenbelt – with 11 sets of masks (each set contains a small, medium and large mask). The 33 masks are already on their way and will be distributed as quickly as possible.

If you'd like to help make sure that all stations within our area receive masks, please make your tax-deductible contribution to H.E.L.P. Animals, Inc. and send your check to the GHI office at One Hamilton Place, Greenbelt, MD 20770, in care of Joan Krob.

To learn more about the oxygen mask program and to see a video of the mask used in an actual rescue, visit <http://help-animalsinc.org/index.php> (scroll to bottom of page to "see a pet rescue").

I'd also like to thank the New Deal Café board, staff and volunteers for all of their hard work to make our March 23 Friday night fundraiser for the oxygen masks a great success. (I'd especially like to thank my mother Mary MacQueen and my aunt Peg Broyhill who traveled all the way from Georgia and North Carolina to be here for the festivities! It was very special having them in attendance and I am very grateful to them for supporting the animals and for their tremendous love and generosity!)

The Companion Animal Committee is deeply grateful to all who have made this life-saving project possible!

Cam MacQueen
GHI Companion
Animal Committee

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF MAR. 30

Namesake (PG-13)

No passes or coupons accepted.

Friday

*4:45, 7:30, 9:55

Saturday

*2:15, *4:45, 7:30, 9:55

Sunday

*2:15, *4:45, 7:30

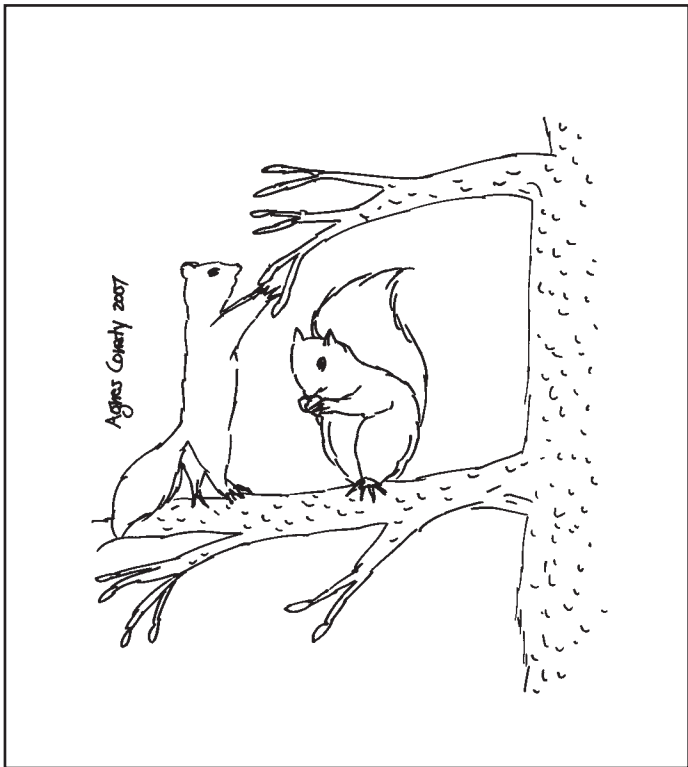
Monday – Thursday

*5, 7:30

*These shows at \$6.00

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On Screen

An Immigration Story

The Namesake, directed by Mira Nair (Vanity Fair, Monsoon Wedding), is adapted from Jhumpa Lahiri's novel of the same name. Starring Kal Penn (Harold and Kumar) as Gogol, this is the moving story of a family that immigrated to the U.S. from Calcutta. Veteran Bollywood actress Tabu plays Gogol's mother Ashima, who has particular difficulty adapting to life in a new country.

The characters of Gogol's parents were based on Lahiri's own parents; Tabu and Irfan Khan, who plays Gogol's dad, spent time with the Lahiris before filming and many of the author's family members appear in the film. The lullabies Ashima sings in the film are the same ones sung to the Lahiri grandchildren.

The film is rated PG-13 for nudity and some strong language and runs 122 minutes.

– Cathy Jones

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Thomas X. White, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell and Pat Davis.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Community Events

Still Creek Meeting To Be Held in Park

The Friends of Still Creek invite those interested in discovering Greenbelt Park and the Still Creek watershed to learn how to help in the protection and restoration of Still Creek and the Anacostia River. The meeting will be at the Ranger Station classroom on Monday, April 2 at 7 p.m. The Ranger Station is located near the campground about 1.5 miles from the park entrance.

Those wishing to attend should notify Bill Duncan at 301-345-6515 or email billdsail@aol.com. Greenbelt Park is located at 6565 Greenbelt Road between Kenilworth Avenue and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. The website address is www.nps.gov/gree.

At the Library

Storytimes

Tuesday, April 3, 10:30 a.m. Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months with caregiver; limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, April 4, 10:30 and 11 a.m. Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver; limit 15 children.

Thursday, April 5, 10:30 a.m. Drop-In Storytime for ages 3 to 5; limit 20 children.

Arthritis Walk 2007 Is Shaping Up Now

by Jean Mattie, Walk Co-chair

The Prince George’s County Arthritis Walk Committee held its first 2007 “Dining Out to Fight Arthritis” fundraising event at the Sir Walter Raleigh restaurant on Monday, March 19. A portion of the day’s receipts was donated to assist local and nationwide events to raise awareness and to provide crucial funds to fight arthritis, the nation’s number one cause of disability. Diners were greeted by volunteers who have been promoting the local Arthritis Walk scheduled for Saturday, May 5 at Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Sir Walter Raleigh’s owner Jerry Cosker has dedicated his participation to the memory of his mother Frances Cosker, who endured arthritis challenges throughout her life. More “Dining Out” events are scheduled on Monday, April 23 and Monday, May 14.

On Thursday, April 12 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the organization will hold a drop-in session at the Greenbelt library’s small conference room with information about arthritis, aches and answers, local programs and the May 5 walk.

The Arthritis Walk is seeking sponsors at all levels in addition to walkers to participate during the events in May, which is National Arthritis month. Walk sites and registration are available online at www.arthritis.org. Sponsorship and general information about the walks is available from the Arthritis Foundation at 202-537-6800 ext. 3016 or call 301-335-7689 to reach the Prince George’s-Greenbelt/ERHS walk committee.

GEAC Meets

The Greenbelt East Advisory Committee (GEAC) meets on Thursday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. at Greenbriar.

GHI Notes

Tuesday, April 3, 7 p.m., Green Ribbon Task Force meeting

7 p.m., Member and Community Relations Committee meeting

Wednesday, April 4, 7:15 p.m., Pre-purchase Orientation

7:30 p.m., Greener Greenbelt Initiative Baseline and Benchmark Working Group meeting

Thursday, April 5, 7 p.m., Investment Committee meeting

Sunday, April 8, noon to 3 p.m., Easter Day Cleanup sponsored by Woodlands Committee

Monday, April 9, 7 p.m., Greener Greenbelt Initiative Charette Planning Working Group meeting

Tuesday, April 10, 8:30 a.m., Yardline Committee meeting

7 p.m., Sustainable Design and Practices Committee meeting

Wednesday, April 11, 7:30 p.m., Companion Animal Committee meeting

Thursday, April 12, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors meeting

Saturday, April 14, 9 a.m. to noon, Woodlands Trail Cleanup

Events will take place in the GHI Administration Building. Committee and board meetings are open meetings; members are encouraged to attend.

BCWWG Birdwalk Sunday at BARC

This Sunday, April 1, the Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group (BCWWG) will sponsor a bird walk led by Michel Cavigelli at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). The group will meet at 7:30 a.m. at the gate on Research Road that defines the boundary between Greenbelt and BARC.

BARC comprises about 75 percent of the Beaverdam Creek Watershed and is an under-explored bird haven. Come learn about, see and hear the watershed’s avian inhabitants. Binoculars are strongly recommended.

Anyone with questions or who is planning to attend is asked to contact Cavigelli at 301-614-0691 or by email at michel.cavigelli@ars.usda.gov.

Cavigelli is a BARC scientist who has been birdwatching for 35 of his 44 years. He is a member of the Beaverdam Creek Watershed Watch Group and has lived on Laurel Hill Road for the past seven plus years.

Potomac Watershed Needs Cleanup Help

This Saturday, March 31 the Alice Ferguson Foundation is sponsoring the 19th Annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup at various locations, including three in Greenbelt.

The cleanup of Buddy Attick Park at Greenbelt Lake will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. To participate email Cindy Murray at cmurray@greenbeltnmd.gov.

Workers can also meet at 9 a.m. behind the Springhill Lake Recreation Center to work on the Springhill Lake Stream.

From 9 a.m. to noon, there will be another cleanup at Greenbelt Park, located at 6565 Greenbelt Road, near the Baltimore-Washington Parkway. According to the foundation’s website, this site is not appropriate for children or those who are disabled. To sign up, call Alex Culver at 301-344-3944 or email him at Alex.Culver@nps.gov.

Get into the Woods To Work and Enjoy

by Kathie Jarva,

GHI Woodlands Committee

The GHI Woodlands Committee has a spring full of fun activities planned. Join in to learn about local forested areas and help protect them. Volunteers of all ages are welcome and events are open to all.

On Sunday, April 8 there will be an Easter Day Clean up from noon to 3 p.m. People are invited to join Woodlands Committee member Doug Love for a special Easter Day clean up and hike along the Goddard Branch of Beaverdam Creek. RSVP to dlove@umuc.edu for more information.

Saturday, April 14 from 9 a.m. to noon will be Woodlands Trail Work Day. The GHI Woodlands Committee is seeking volunteers to help improve and clean up a few sections of woodland trail in the GHI woods. Volunteers will help prune brush, pick up trash, stabilize the trail bed and other projects. RSVP to pb@umd.edu for more information and head count.

Three Saturday Spring Migration Bird Hikes are planned: April 28, May 5 and May 12 from 7 to 9 a.m. Participants will meet at Northway Fields parking lot for these hikes led by GHI Woodlands Committee Co-chair Peter Blank. These are fun, educational hikes that offer a way to learn more about the feathered friends that inhabit the local woods. RSVP to pb@umd.edu.

People who enjoy walking the woods are encouraged to participate in the Woodland Trail Walkers Program and/or Weed Warriors Team to help keep the woodlands a friendly place.

For more information contact Matt Berres at mberres@ghi.coop or 301-474-4161 ext 132.

More information about the GHI Woodlands Committee is available online at www.ghi.coop/woodlands.

Spring Fair Is Held Saturday at GES

Saturday, March 31 will be a day for Greenbelt Elementary School staff, students, parents and other members of the community to relax and have fun at the PTA’s annual Spring Fair.

Kids can do crafts like paper airplanes, playful hats and sand art. Popular games include the popular “potty toss,” fishing for ducks and digging for treasure in a sand box. Adults and children can participate in the cakewalk or measure how fast they could throw a baseball with Officer Parker and his radar gun.

A Bike Rodeo will be held from noon to 2 p.m. Bring a bike and helmet or borrow one at the rodeo. The silent auction (cash only) features gift certificates from local businesses and other donated items. Kids can also bid on special lunches sponsored by teachers. A one-day Scholastic Book Fair (cash or credit cards) is offered again this year. Last year this event earned the school about \$700 worth of books.

To learn more about the Greenbelt Elementary School PTA, visit the webpage at www.greenbelt.com/gespta.



John Henry Jones, garden captain of “Henry’s Hollow,” discovers a new way to water his vegetables this season. Jones was on a trip to the National Building Museum with Karen Haseley who took three vans of Greenbelt seniors.
– photo by Karen Haseley

Golden Age Club Celebrates 50 Years

by Bunny Fitzgerald

The Golden Age Club is delighted to have several new members. We welcome them and look forward to seeing them at meetings.

Lots of energy and planning are going into our 50th Anniversary luncheon on April 18 at the Hilton Garden Hotel in Greenbelt. The deadline for reservations is April 11, so hurry and sign up. You don’t want to miss this gala affair with entertainment and good food, favors and lots of memories and history of the 50 years of the club. Members and guests are invited.

Enjoy the warm spring weather. Greenbelt is beautiful at this season of the year.

Genealogy Society Talk at Library

The next meeting of the Prince George’s County Genealogical Society will feature Robert Barnes speaking on “Ads for Missing Persons, A Select Bibliography of Newspaper Sources” from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, April 3 at the Greenbelt Public Library. A brief business meeting will be held to update attendees on upcoming society activities, followed by a short refreshment break, then the guest speaker for the evening. Guests are always welcome.

Park in the rear and use the ground-level entrance. For further information call 301-262-2063 (on Wednesday only).

Still Creek Clean-up Drive Is Saturday

A clean-up project for the Still Creek/Potomac Watershed will be held this Saturday, March 31 from 3 to 5 p.m. Participants will meet at the end of Hanover Drive next to the dog park and the Greenbelt East recycling center off Hanover Parkway. They should wear heavy pants and, if possible, bring boots.

For information call Michele Touchet, clean-up coordinator at 301-552-6466.

Help Remove Invasive Plants

Help protect Greenbelt Park’s native plants. Join in a hands-on nature preservation activity and learn about native and non-native plants.

Meet on Saturday April 7 at 11 a.m. in the Sweetgum Picnic Area.

This program will be every first Saturday of the month. Come, rain or shine, wear appropriate clothing and work gloves and bring lunch/snack.

This is a partnership between the Greenbelt Park and the University of Maryland. Greenbelt Park’s entrance is located between Kenilworth Avenue and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway at 6565 Greenbelt Road.

For more information, call Greenbelt Park at 301-344-3944 or visit the park’s webpage at <http://www.nps.gov/gree/>.

GREENBELT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SPRING FAIR!

MARCH 31, 2007 from 10 AM TO 2 PM
FOOD - GAMES - SCHOLASTIC BOOK SALE
CRAFTS - CAKE WALK - BIKE RODEO 12 - 2 pm
SILENT AUCTION (bring cash!)

Lost Tribe Speakers At Potluck April 13

On Friday, April 13 at 6 p.m. there will be a potluck dinner at Mishkan Torah followed by services with a speaker from the B'nei Menashe, a group believing themselves the descendants of the tribe of Menashe – one of the 10 lost tribes of Israel.

In North East India, in the land mass that lies between Burma and Bangladesh, there lives a small group of people who have old tribal traditions of a baby ceremony at eight days, a song about a Passover feast in remembrance of crossing the Red Sea and other similarities to Judaism of the biblical period. They call themselves B'nei Menashe. Also known as the Shinlung, the B'nei Menashe relate their history of exile from the Northern Kingdom of Israel in 721 B.C. across the silk route finally ending up in India and Burma. The story of these people is an amazing one. After thousands of years of exile they have rediscovered their roots and are returning to Judaism by formally converting to Judaism and seeking to make aliyah (to live in Israel).

Dairy/Pareve contributions for the potluck are welcome but no kitchen facilities will be available for use. For more information call 301-474-4223.

Ragtime Ensemble For Free "Take Five"

On Tuesday, April 3 the Peabody Ragtime Ensemble will perform an eclectic line-up of traditional jazz – ragtime, Dixieland, Big Band, swing, novelties and vocals. "Take Five" is a free series of interactive, informal events, held on selected Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

Free Harp Recital At Smith Center

On Monday, April 2 at 8 p.m., the UM School of Music hosts a free guest recital by Elizabeth Hainen on harp with David DePeters on percussion. This performance by the acclaimed recitalist and principal harp of the Philadelphia Orchestra will feature works by Damase, Albeniz, Piazzolla and Renie's "Ballade Fantastique" for harp. The recital will be held at Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

Leader in Women's History Is Greenbelt East Resident

by Jill Moss Greenberg

A Greenbelt resident, Linda Shevitz of Brett Place, is an appropriate subject as part of the News Review's series on women of achievement. Shevitz is senior equity specialist at the Maryland State Department of Education and for the last two decades has been coordinator of the unique Maryland Women's History Project.

In these positions, Shevitz has identified, preserved and transmitted the history of Maryland women and girls.

Since 1982 she has coordinated the development of packets of informational materials focused on a different area of women's contributions each year.

These packets have been distributed to every school and library in the state each January for use in March or throughout the year. The last packet, in 2003, created the Maryland Women's Heritage Trail. These informative materials have filled



Linda Shevitz

in many gaps in history, winning national awards for their excellence.

Shevitz now serves on the Board of the Maryland Women's Heritage Center and Museum. The Women's Heritage Center, currently in the development stage, will be a national first. It will honor the contributions of Maryland girls and women, both renowned women such as Harriet Tubman and Rachel Carson and the "unsung heroines" in our families and communities. Founders of the Center hope that learning about this rich past will inspire both girls and boys and help to shape the future.

Two years ago, for all her efforts and leadership, Shevitz was named by the Baltimore Daily Record as one of the Top 100 Women in Maryland.

Jill Moss Greenberg is the founding executive director of the Maryland Women's Heritage Center.

Editor's Note:

In response to our request, the stories of two Greenbelt women of achievement were given to the News Review. We publish the first one – about Linda Shevitz – in this issue. While Shevitz seems an ideal choice for the Women's History month series currently running in this newspaper, the goal has been to feature Greenbelt women whose stories are not widely known. We ran a story about Shevitz several years ago.

Our own reporter, senior copy editor and long-ago-editor, Virginia Beauchamp, would seem another ideal choice, but again, one we are not including in this group.

One of Greenbelt's Outstanding Citizens, Beauchamp was selected for the Maryland State Women's Hall of Fame. She is the founder of Women's Studies at the University of Maryland; served on the President's Commission on Women's Issues, the last three years as chair; and as a special assistant to former president William Kirwan on women's issues. She also served for three years on the Prince George's County Commission for Women. Her story has appeared many times in the News Review.

GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH

Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net

Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor



Sundays:
Traditional Service 8:30 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Contemporary Service 11:00 am
Weds. Worship: 7:00 pm
(Adult Bible Study/Prayer & Children's Ministry)

Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family through Loving Service

YIELD

Sometimes life gets hard and we wonder why things go wrong, but let's not forget the greatest of virtues – patience.

God explains to us, in the Qur'an: "Be sure we shall test you with something of fear and hunger, some loss in goods or lives or the fruits (of your toil), but give glad tidings to those who patiently persevere; who say, when afflicted with calamity: 'To God we belong, and to Him is our return.' They are those on whom (descend) blessings from God, and mercy, and they are ones that receive guidance."

– The Holy Quran 2:155-157

This is the guidance sent forth to humankind by the Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) nearly 1400 years ago. And it is still relevant today. For more information about the Qur'an, call 301-982-9463 or email us at info@searchislam.org or visit www.searchislam.org

Information Service Has the Goods

With more than 164,000 questions to its credit Maryland libraries are celebrating the fourth anniversary of "Maryland Ask Us Now!," the free online service that provides Marylanders with answers to questions, research guidance and help navigating the internet 24 hours a day, seven days a week. At www.askusnow.info, anyone can type a question and chat back and forth with a professional librarian and receive trusted information when and where they need it. People can also access this innovative service by selecting the bright yellow AskUsNow! icon on partner library websites.

Maryland Ask Us Now! brings together the experience and resources of the state's public, academic and special libraries. The librarians share night and weekend coverage with libraries from around the country. In addition to the live chat service, subject specialists are available to respond by email to questions requiring more extensive investigation. These often include topics requiring business research, the law, hard-to-find statistics or historical questions such as those involving genealogy.



Condolences to Maria and Bill Shields on the death of Maria's mother Isabel Simmons of Cambridge, Md., who died on March 16, 2007, at the age of 97.

Welcome home to the Maryland Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion 110th Field Artillery Battery B, which is headquartered at the Greenbelt Armory. The soldiers are returning from a one-year deployment in Guantanamo Bay, along with guardsmen from Battery A of Westminster.

Congratulations to St. Hugh's 8th-grader Jacob Tuthill, son of David and Sheila Maffay-Tuthill, who has qualified to compete in the 2007 Maryland Geography Bee to be held in Towson on March 30. The state winner will represent Maryland at the national finals May 22-23 where, in addition to the distinction, they will compete for \$25,000 in scholarships.

Wishing a speedy get well to Terry Bragg, who is now at home recovering from surgery. Bragg is the long-time assistant to State Farm agent Don Taulelle in the Belle Point office.

Jane Love has moved to Sligo Creek Nursing Rehabilitation Center. Her new number is 301-270-0894. She loves to hear from her friends and neighbors.

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

April 1, 10 a.m.

"Playground of the Soul"

by Barbara W. ten Hove, co-minister with Michael Leger, worship associate
(Come dressed in your silliest outfit for April Fool's Day.)

– Barbara W. and Jacob B. ten Hove, co-ministers



Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM

except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:00 PM

Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM

Sunday minyon - 9:30 AM

Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist

Greenbelt Community Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."



... living life together

Bible Study & Worship

9:30 "Good Morning!!" Coffee and Snacks

10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Worship

Greenbelt Youth Center

99 Centerway (Behind the Community Center)

April 1 Sermon: *Glory & Praise (At least for a moment)*

Pastor Lou Redd
301-474-4499 410-340-8242 (cell)

...living life together



**Catholic
Community
of Greenbelt
MASS**

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building

Baha'i Faith

"Now is the time for affiliation and now is the period of unity and concord. For thousands of years ye have been contending in warfare and strife. It is enough. Now is the time for unity."
– Abdu'l-Bahá

Greenbelt Baha'i Community
P.O. Box 245
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-345-2918 301-220-3160
www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org

FLAM continued from page 1

important position in the Ministry of Justice,” she explained, “and there was a warrant out for their arrest.”

The Tchernova family lived comfortably in Latvia until 1939, when the Soviet Union occupied the three Baltic states of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, “introducing a true reign of terror in my country,” Flam recalled. One of her grandfathers was among the first arrested and deported to a labor camp in Siberia, where he soon died, she said.

She remembers scenes where nighttime executions occurred behind the tall fences of formerly privately-owned villas, confiscated by the secret police. “There were mass deportations of whole families to Siberia, where few survived the cold, hunger and brutal labor,” she elaborated.

“At night the last few weeks before Hitler attacked the Soviet Union in 1941,” she said, “we feared every noise coming from the staircase in our apartment house; next to my bed stood a suitcase with warm clothes, some food and water – rumor had it that the Soviets shipped children in separate cattle cars from their parents,” she continued.

Not only did the Soviets brutalize the people of Latvia but “the German occupation brought its own terror by wiping out the large Jewish population,” she remembered. By the fall of 1941, her school class was greatly diminished; a number had been deported by the Soviets “and all my Jewish classmates were killed by the Germans,” she stated grimly.

By 1944, when the German troops were retreating and the Soviet army advancing, Flam’s parents faced a difficult choice: to stay in Latvia or to flee with the Germans? Which was the lesser evil? Knowing that their family was at the very least slated for deportation to Siberia, they decided to leave Latvia. “It was the right choice,” Flam confided.

Post-War

Surviving several terrible air raids, her family was liberated by American troops and ended up in Munich, Germany, where she was able to continue her education in a Russian-language high school.

Flam spent several years in Morocco, where her father was working. She later decided to revisit Munich, where she found work as a Russian-language announcer at the European bureau of the VOA.

In 1954 and newly married, she arrived in New York with her husband, who was working for the U.S.-funded Radio Liberty. By then, her parents and her younger sister were living in Connecticut, her father, a civil engineer, having fulfilled his dream of coming to America.

In New York, while raising two children, she worked as a freelance reporter for the VOA Russian-language service and co-hosted a worldwide VOA English weekly program called “New York, New York.” “Our guests ran the gamut from the likes of Duke Ellington, Luciano Pavarotti and Isaac Asimov to an elevator operator, bar owners and others who made the city run,” she commented.

In 1973 Flam came to Washington, D.C., as a VOA staff member. In 1976, she returned for the first time to the land of

her ancestors to report on the opening of the American Bicentennial Exhibit in Moscow. She remembers meeting many of her VOA listeners even though the program was still heavily jammed by the Soviets.

She said, “It was gratifying to find out how well-disposed most of them were towards the U.S. It was also daunting to realize how much more could be done to ‘tell it like it is’ against heavy Soviet propaganda,” she stated emphatically.

Soon after her return from Moscow, her husband died at age 52. She met her second husband, Eli Flam, a U.S. Information Agency officer, when he was temporarily assigned to VOA after a tour of duty at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. They were married in 1980.

Flam’s interests range from hiking and reading to keeping up with her six grandchildren. She also enjoys swimming and working out at the Aquatic and Fitness Center and frequently walks her dog around Greenbelt Lake park.

After her many worldwide travels, Flam feels comfortable in Greenbelt, which she describes as “a cohesive community with a strong neighborhood feeling, a distinctive history and some wonderful people, too.” One wonderful new resident is Ludmilla “Lucy” Flam.

Application Deadline For Girls/Boys State

The Girls State program, now in its 62nd year, is a residential training program in leadership, citizenship and government to be held at Frostburg State University June 17 to 22. The program is open to girls who will be completing 11th grade this June. Selection criteria include qualities of leadership, scholarship, service to school and community and an interest in the field of government.

A similar program for boys will be conducted at Western Maryland College. The cost of room, board, tuition and books for participants in either program is funded by the Legion or Auxiliary. Participants are responsible for travel arrangements.

Girls State participants will receive training in the management of a democratic government at city, county and state levels, run for office, campaign, formulate party platforms, vote in primary and general elections and learn to use voting machines. Applications received by April 5 will be given preferential consideration but all are due no later than April 11.

Eleanor Roosevelt students may pick up forms from the Guidance Office or ROTC Department. Eligible female students from other schools may call Mrs. Beeg at 301-577-3025; male students may call Mr. Hofberg at 301-552-9582.

St. George’s Episcopal Church

7010 Glenn Dale Road
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)

Journey with us during Holy Week

April 1 Palm Sunday Services at 8 & 10 am
April 5 Maundy Thursday Dinner & Service 7:00 pm
April 6 Good Friday Service 7:30 pm
April 7 The Great Vigil of Easter 8:30 pm
St. George’s is a welcoming and inclusive parish

To celebrate
National Women’s History Month,
here are some teachings about women
from the Bahá’í Faith:

“Women have equal rights with men upon earth; in religion and society they are very important elements. As long as women are prevented from attaining their highest possibilities, so long will men be unable to achieve the greatness which might be theirs.”

Abdu’l-Bahá son of prophet-founder of
Bahá’í Faith - Bahá’u’lláh

ST. JOHN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Route One and Powder Mill Road, Beltsville
Phone 301-937-4292
Email stjohnsbeltsville@netzero.net

CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK WITH US!

Palm Sunday (April 1) services at 8:00 & 10:00 am
Maundy Thursday (April 5)

- Passover Seder 6:00 pm; a light supper follows.
- Maundy Thursday Liturgy 7:30 pm

Good Friday (April 6) Liturgy at Noon (with Stations of the Cross) and 7:30 pm, Easter Day (April 8)

- Sunrise Service at 6:00 am in St. John’s Cemetery
- Easter Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:00 am
- Nursery care for infants and toddlers at 10:00 am
- Easter Egg Hunt after the 10:00 am service
- Light Brunch will follow all three services



Bar-av-Ginsberg Engagement

Michelle Bar-av and Michael Ginsberg announce their engagement. Michelle is the daughter of Sonia and Zeev Bar-av. Michael, a former Greenbelt resident, is the son of Harriet and David Ginsburg, Greenbelt residents since 1965.

Michelle attended Towson University and Baltimore School of Massage. She is employed at La Papillion as a massage therapist and is a part-time instructor at Baltimore School of Massage.

Michael is employed with the Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C.

Michelle is the granddaughter of the late Rose and Abe Losinsky and the late Lena and Kuba Yoblanka. Michael is the grandson of the late Morris and Luba Gherts and the late Samuel and Sophie Ginsburg.

The wedding is planned for May 2007.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church



40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410

Rev. Dr. Paul C. Kim, Pastor

Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am

Prayer Meeting Sun. 9:45 am

Senior Computer Class Mon. 2:00 pm

Handicapped Accessible Come As You Are!

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111



Palm Sunday – April 1, 2007

8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Blessing and Distribution of Palms

Holy Thursday – April 5, 2007

Service at 12:15 p.m.

Service at 7:30 p.m. Communion, Foot Washing,
Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday – April 6, 2007

12:15 p.m. - Passion Observance

7:30 p.m. Service of Darkness and Sealing of the Tomb

Easter Sunday – April 8, 2007

9:30 a.m. Festival Service of Holy Communion

Children’s Egg Hunt following Service



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322



Holy Week Schedule

Confessions

Wednesday, April 4 from 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Solemn Services

Holy Thursday, April 5

Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 6

Stations of the Cross – 2 p.m.

Veneration of the Cross – 7:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 7

Blessing of Easter Foods – 9 a.m.

Easter Vigil – 8 p.m.

Masses

Easter Sunday, April 8

8, 9:30 and 11 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe

Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd

FIRE continued from page 1

shut down a distribution station pending further analysis of the reason for the electrical problems. This left 31 buildings without electricity in the Section 3 area of Springhill Lake and affected another 275 families. There was no effort to evacuate the residents of these buildings, the matter being treated the same as any other power outage. However, alternative shelter at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center was made available by the city.

According to information provided to the Greenbelt City Council and the public by Captain Thomas Kemp of the Greenbelt Police Department at a Monday night council meeting, the cause of the building fires appears to be electrical although the investigation into the causes of the fires is on-going according to the Prince George's County Fire Department. While electrical service is provided to the apartment complex by Pepco, it is distributed to the various buildings from power distribution stations owned and operated by the apartment complex, according to Kemp.

According to ABC 7 News, Mark Brady, county fire department spokesman, told the media that electricians are checking the apartment complex's power distribution stations Tuesday for the approximately 200 apartment buildings in the project. The inspections could also include checks of wiring in the complex as well.

Built in the 1960s, the garden apartment complex consists of three-story wood-framed buildings. The buildings are a combination of brick and composite fiberboard construction widely used at that time.

Fire Calls

According to Kemp, fire units were called out shortly after midnight, Monday morning, with a report of smoke odor at an apartment at 9150 Edmonston Road. At first no fire nor the cause of the smell was found and it was felt that it was left over from an earlier unrelated car fire incident in the area.

According to the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad website (www.engine35.com) Berwyn Heights was first on the scene but did not have an engine unit and apparently made only an outside visual inspection. After Greenbelt's engine arrived, the first on the scene, firemen entered the building and found smoke on the third floor.

"Further investigation found fire in the basement and up through the walls. Heavy fire was found in two units on the second floor. The fire was heavy through the walls all the way to the attic and eventually spread to 9152 Edmonston Road," according to the website.

"Greenbelt's engine crew first went to the basement and assisted with bringing the fire there under control. The fire eventually went to three alarms with 61 firefighters from 20 companies operating on the scene at the height of the incident. Engine 353 cleared the scene at 3:33 a.m., after just under 3 1/2 hours of firefighting and overhaul of buildings," the website report added.

According to the engine35 website and other published reports, the fire was initially determined to be caused by the overheating of an electrical wire in the basement laundry room in

the area of the ceiling and started by igniting ceiling materials in that room. Also, fire officials are reported to have said that the third alarm for the fire was for precautionary reasons. The fire resulted in the evacuation of three buildings.

Second Fire

At 9:12 a.m. Greenbelt and other departments were again called out for a fire a short distance across Springhill Court from the first fire in a building at 9116 Edmonston Court. According to the engine35 web site respondents found an "eerily similar" fire scene. It was another electrical fire sending fire up the walls of the building to the third floor. Operations on this fire took almost four hours to complete including overhaul work after the fire was put out. Again, no injuries were reported. Again it was necessary to evacuate three buildings. Again overheated wiring near the panel box in the ceiling of the laundry room was preliminarily determined to be the cause of the fire.

Later that morning, a third fire was reported in a nearby building, 9144 Edmonston Court, according to Greenbelt Planning and Community Development Director Celia Craze. This fire was immediately put out with little or no damage and was not noted in the engine35 website.

These incidents led fire officials to shut down the electrical distribution center for section 3 of the apartment project leaving a total of 31 buildings without power.

By Monday afternoon the area was swarming with workmen, police and fire personnel and officials. Damaged buildings with broken windows were being boarded up. A large fleet of trucks from a resource recovery expert firm were present. Also there were four television news camera crews, each waiting to send out live segments for the five o'clock news.

Four City Public Works pickup trucks arrived hauling portable flood lighting on trailers for use at the project. Many other flood lights arrived as well. Kemp said light towers were installed in the area affected by the power outage and construction lights were placed inside powerless buildings to light hallways.

Police Presence

Police maintained a presence in the community Monday night to provide information, help people deal with the situation and to deter theft, according to Kemp who is serving as incident commander for the police.

Greenbelt Animal Control, led by Officer Susie Hall, responded to the scene Monday and went through the buildings collecting all animals they could find, including a large tank of delicate fish and eels. The animals were being housed at Greenbelt's animal facility until the owners could make other arrangements for them.

At the time of the first fire, only WRC, Channel 4, was apparently on the scene. Their website showed photographs of firemen at work after the blaze had been put out.

Fire officials decided not to evacuate those residents from other buildings who were without power. According to Kemp, the smoke alarms function

See FIRE, page 16



Flames leap from the roof of the fire at 9150-9152 Edmonston Road shortly after midnight Monday, September 26.



Firefighters from neighboring communities compare notes after a long night and morning of managing problems in several units on Edmonston Court and Edmonston Road.



Firemen at work following the fire call to 9116-9118 Edmonston Court on Monday morning, September 26. Berwyn Heights' long ladder provides access to the roof.

Smith Center Offers Free Adult Play

The UM Theatre Department presents “The Lab: An Experiment in Grand Guignol” by Andre De Lorde, translated, adapted and directed by Lindsey Snyder and Kristen Messer.

Dr. Gorlitz, to the chagrin of her husband and household, loves only one thing: science. “The Lab” takes a look at gender politics, mad scientists and old-fashioned revenge. Contains adult themes. The play will be presented in the Laboratory Theatre of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

This free production will be presented on Saturday, March 31 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, April 1 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; and Monday, April 2 at 7 p.m.

PGCC, in cooperation with the Hallam Players, presents “Endgame,” a comedy by Samuel Beckett at the Queen Anne Fine Arts Bldg. - Largo. Performances are March 29-31, 7:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. March 31-April 1. Tickets are \$10, \$5 for students/seniors.

Academy 8 Theatres

Beltway Plaza Mall
Center Court
301-220-1155

All shows starting before 6 p.m.
Are ONLY \$5.00
R = ID Required
(!) = No pass, No Discount Ticket

Week of March 30 FRI. - SAT.

Hills Have Eyes 2, R (!)
12:10, 2:30, 5:30, 7:50 10:30
Blades of Glory, PG-13 (!)
12:20, 2:30, 5:20, 8, 10:20
Pride, PG (!)
1:10, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15
300, R (!)
1, 4, 6:35, 9:15
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, PG (!)
12:20, 2:45, 5:30, 8, 10:10
Meet the Robinsons, PG (!)
12, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10
Dead Silence, R (!)
12, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20
I Think I Love My Wife, R (!)
12:10, 2:30, 5:20, 7:40, 10:30

SUN.

Hills Have Eyes 2, R (!)
12:10, 2:30, 5:30, 7:50
Blades of Glory, PG-13 (!)
12:20, 2:30, 5:20, 8
Pride, PG (!)
1:10, 4:10, 6:45
300, R (!)
1, 4, 6:35
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, PG (!)
12:20, 2:45, 5:30, 8
Meet the Robinsons, PG-13 (!)
12, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50
Dead Silence, R (!)
12, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50
I Think I Love My Wife, R (!)
12:10, 2:30, 5:20, 7:40

MON. – THUR.

Hills Have Eyes 2, R (!)
2:30, 5:30, 7:50
Blades of Glory, PG-13 (!)
2:30, 5:20, 8
Pride, PG (!)
2:50, 5:10, 7:40
300, R (!)
2:30, 5, 7:40
Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, PG (!)
2:45, 5:30, 8
Meet the Robinsons, PG (!)
2:40, 5:10, 7:50
Dead Silence, R (!)
2:30, 5:10, 7:50
I Think I Love My Wife, R (!)
2:30, 5:20, 7:40



City Information

Meetings for April 2-6

Tuesday, April 3, 7:00pm, Public Safety Advisory Committee, at the Community Center,

Wednesday, April 4, 8:00pm, City Council Budget Work Session-Planning and Community Development, Capital Projects at Community Center.

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call the number listed above, or contact the City Clerk at 301-474-8000 or kgallagher@greenbeltmd.gov.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups.

Vacancies exist on the:

- Arts Advisory Board
- Employee Relations Board
- Youth Advisory Committee

For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

CITY JOB OPENING

Community Center Coordinator – Develop and implement recreation programs and events and supervise the activities and programs conducted in one of the City’s recreation centers. Involves wide latitude for independent judgment and initiative and includes determining and supervising all phases of recreational activities. Supervise and train part-time, intermittent, independent contractors, instructors and volunteer staff. Bachelor’s Degree in Recreation or related field. Certification is preferred. Evening and weekend shifts are required. \$36,129/year + benefits. EOE.

Apply: City of Greenbelt Personnel, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770; call job line 301-474-1872 or visit www.greenbeltmd.gov for required application.

SPRING CAMP 2007

Monday, April 9– Friday, April 13

Are you looking for a supervised, safe, and fun environment for your child during their **SPRING BREAK**? Then look no further than the *Greenbelt Recreation Department!*

We have **TWO** great camps for your child to choose from!

CHOOSE SPRING CAMP: Fun filled activities both at the Youth Center and off premises. Includes The Maryland Science Center, Capital Club House, Roller Skating, Bowling, Ceramics Rocket Launching, Swimming and a cook-out!

Or SPRING BASEBALL CAMP: Get you baseball skills tuned up and ready for the upcoming season. Campers will be divided into groups based on skills and age. Drills, practices and games.

For more information and to register call 301-397-2200 or visit www.greenbeltmd.gov for camp brochure and registration forms.

POTOMAC WATERSHED CLEAN-UP

SATURDAY, March 31st 9AM-11AM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Come and join members of the Greenbelt Recycling and Environment Committee remove litter and other debris from two sites in Greenbelt.

GREENBELT LAKE: Meet in the playground area of Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road

SPRINGHILL LAKE STREAM: Meet behind Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Lane

- Bring your work gloves.
- Wear Comfortable Clothing and Boots – or old shoes.

Attention Students – Community Service Hours will be given. Bring your forms!!

For more information, call the City of Greenbelt Public Works Office at 301-474-8004.

Greenbelt Recreation Department

ANNUAL EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 7th 10:00 AM

BUDDY ATTICK PARK

Children ages 18 months through 6th grade

Bring your basket and help the Bunny find the eggs he and his helpers have hidden.

Rain date will be Monday, April 9 at Buddy Attick Park. Please call the weather hotline at 301-474-5525.

AN ARTFUL AFTERNOON

Sunday, April 1st from 1-5pm at the Greenbelt Community Center

Featuring: “A FOOL NAMED ‘O’” performance by physical comedian Mark Jaster. Reading and book signing: Greenbelt Writers Group’s new anthology. Make your own personalized magnetic tic-tac-toe ART PROJECT with the GREENBELT MUSEUM.

FREE FOR ALL AGES. Sponsored by the Greenbelt’s Department of Recreation.

For more information call 301-397-2200.

Greenbelt Municipal/ Public Access Channel 71

MUNICIPAL ACCESS: 301-474-8000: Tuesday & Thursday, April 3 & 5: 10am & 6pm “Ask the Expert-Infection Prevention in the Home” **7:00pm:** “ACE Reading Club-Springhill Lake” **7:30pm** Replay of Council Work Session 3/27/07

PUBLIC ACCESS (GATE): 301-507-6581: Wednesday & Friday, April 4 & 6: 7:00pm “Love, Sex, and the IRS” **9:00pm** GAC “Cabaret”

City Information at www.greenbeltmd.gov

MARYLAND TAX RETURN

If you live within the corporate boundaries of the City of Greenbelt, make sure to write or enter “Greenbelt” on your Maryland State Tax form under “City, town or taxing area” so that your taxes can best serve your community!

“Discomaniacs” Program At Wells Ice Rink Sat.



Skaters on the Wells Figure Skating team left to right, (back row) Philip Chu, Chris Bonnell, Maura Ellsworth, Charlie Murphy, Sammy Hall, Vanessa Crain, Claire Flintoff, Joe Simmons, Ursula Tooley, Amelia Franklin and Alice Murphy. Middle row: Carrie Scott, Christina Fields, Joan Chu, Julia Rubin, Alexia Worthey and Malya Prather. Front row: Anna Schlosnagle, Natalie Dalton, Milan Brown and Bridget Pacheco.

The Wells Figure Skating Team will perform an exhibition of their “Discomaniacs” program at Herbert Wells Ice Rink on Saturday, March 31 at 5 p.m. The team is made up of skaters age 9 to 22 representing all levels of figure skating. Greenbelters on the team include Alice Murphy, who has skated with the team for the last eight years, Charlie Murphy who has been a member for six years and Christopher Bonnell, a member for five years. Ursula Tooley joined the team this year. The team has been coached for the last eight years by Christine Brinton, assisted by Heather Kilgore. The team has competed in two local competitions this season, earning first place medals in both. They hope to maintain their three-year record as an undefeated production team when they compete at the District IV regional competition April 29 at the Ice Gardens in Laurel. For the first time the 22-member team will take their show on the road, traveling to Chicago in July to compete at the ISI World Competition. The group will be fundraising later with bake sales and at the District IV Competition to finance the trip to Chicago.

Greenbelt Teens’ Films To Be Shown at PGCC

by Barbara Simon

Two Greenbelt teens, Joel Mason-Gaines and Brandon Peters, are among eight young people to have their animated shorts shown as part of the Heritage Film & Video Festival on Saturday, March 31 at Prince George’s Community College. All the youth are participants in the animation program produced by a partnership between GAVA (Greenbelt Association for the Visual Arts) and GATE (Greenbelt Access Television). The program holds classes in animation year-round at GATE’s studios in the Greenbelt Community Center with George Kochell as the instructor. Mason-Gaines’ short is “Vote! Volume 2,” a parody of a cable news channel and is one of several he has created with the animation program. He has toured most of the U.S. by following his films to many festivals and is currently a student at Eleanor Roosevelt High School where he takes the TV production class. He also plays the drums and is interested in photography.

Peters has two shorts in the festival: “Wall of Death” and “Where It’s @ News.” Brandon, 16, says his favorite subject in high school is biology. He animates on his home computer in his spare time besides attending animation classes. Peters says he made his animated shorts for his little cousins so they could watch something “good and goofy on a rainy day.” These shorts will be shown during the section of the festival devoted to works by young people, beginning at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 31. The free festival takes place both March 30 and 31 at the Rennie Forum at the Prince George’s Community College. See www.heritagefilm-videofest.org for more information. The festival is supported by the Prince George’s Arts Council and by the Liberal Arts Division and the African American Studies Institute of the College and by Maison de Jacqui. For information about the GAVA/GATE Animation Program call 301-474-2192.

Get into the Arts!

Greenbelt Baseball, Inc. Request McDonald Field Improvements

by Thomas X. White

The Greenbelt City Council had a very light business agenda facing them following the well-attended and uplifting ACE Educators Awards presentations on Monday, March 12. Plans for a possible early adjournment were thwarted, however, by a petitions and requests item relating to McDonald Field conditions brought by a contingent of Greenbelt Baseball, Inc. (GB) officers, coaches and supporters. That item, along with a longer than usual Administrative Reports recitation, delayed council’s getting to the three business items on the agenda until 9:45 p.m. With Councilmembers Konrad Herling and Edward Putens unable to attend the meeting, Mayor Judith Davis, Councilmembers Rodney Roberts and Leta Mach then covered those items quickly. **McDonald Field** A group of GB officials were on hand to petition council on issues relating to installing lights at the McDonald Field ballfield just east of 7 Court Southway between the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) cooperative and the Baltimore/Washington Parkway. Jose Morales, Jr., led off requesting council to, “provide written affirmation on providing lights at McDonald Field so that Greenbelt Baseball can go forward with fund raising for the project.” Davis responded that GB should be aware that the city has not taken a position on the lights and that the city Parks and Recreation Advisory Board report on ballfield lights in the city has recommended that the first field to be lighted is the one at Schrom Hills Park in Greenbelt East. The GB vice president, Jose Morales, II, repeated his father’s request but also listed several other conditions at McDonald Field that needed attention, including fence repairs, team dugout repairs, the condition of the outfield and the infield and parking access. In regard to expansion of parking near the field, Roberts suggested that GB consider other options, such as using the public parking area adjacent to the Greenbelt Armory and possibly shuttling players and spectators from there to McDonald Field. Other speakers for GB indicated to council there would be room for an additional 11 spaces at the field. They believed the impact on adjacent vegetation would be minimal and the dead brush conditions there might actually be improved. Again Davis noted that there may be other views regarding parking and competing needs within the city recreation programs. Residents of the adjacent GHI courts, who were present, also generally supported upgrades to the area. They felt that GB was a “good neighbor” with their youth baseball program. Mach also took the opportunity to advise GB officials of the possibility of obtaining KaBoom! funding support for refurbishing McDonald Field. This idea had been discussed briefly when council held a stakeholder session with the Greenbelt East Advisory Council earlier in the month. The KaBoom! project, if Greenbelt were successful in getting a grant, would involve the community in planning and imple-

menting the improvements. Finally, council and City Manager Michael McLaughlin emphasized that with the very recent freezing temperatures and late winter weather, the city Public Works Department staff has not yet been able to begin its annual preparations for the athletic fields in Greenbelt. The GB was assured that with moderating temperatures that work will begin soon. **Administrative Reports** Several noteworthy reports from the manager and individual members of council were presented during this part of the agenda. McLaughlin welcomed Dan LaPlaca, standing in for Robert Manzi, counsel to the city, for the night’s meeting. McLaughlin also announced that Greenbelt would be participating in a Potomac River Watershed program with a clean-up scheduled for March 31 from 9 to 11 a.m. at Greenbelt Lake. Volunteers were invited. McLaughlin also noted that the city intends to apply for a grant supporting restoration efforts at the Old Greenbelt Theatre from the Anacostia Trails Heritage Association (ATHA) in the amount of \$100,000. In that regard, Mach reported on her participation with McLaughlin at a hearing in Annapolis on the city’s bond request for capital funds to support the theater improvements. Mach reported that the response to the city request was good, with people at the hearing commenting that, “Oh, that is my favorite theater.” Council then handled the few remaining business items with dispatch. Roberts introduced for first reading a resolution to purchase a Deep Tine Aerator from Finch Services, Inc. at a cost of \$15,500. This purchase is being proposed by city staff to allow the city to expand ground aeration work to improve drainage on the city’s active athletic fields and improve turf management and to reduce soil compaction around large mature trees. For a number of years the city has contracted for aeration services at a cost of \$3,500 per year.

The next item dealt with a proposed submission for the county’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for reconstruction of a portion of Edmonston Road, a small section of Springhill Drive and another project to begin upgrading street lighting and installation of emergency call boxes in Springhill Lake. McLaughlin and Assistant City Manager David Moran reminded council that the Springhill Lake neighborhood is the only CDBG-eligible census tract area within the city. Earlier this year, city staff was uncertain that the traditional process for award of CDBG grants would be available for the city but just before the meeting they had learned that the traditional process would be used this year after all. Roberts moved approval of the staff recommendation and it was approved unanimously. The final item of business was a run-down of proposed state legislation placed on the agenda for consideration of city support. As events have unfolded in Annapolis, the legislative viability of each of the proposed bills has apparently headed south. Senate Bill 605/House Bill 1018 recommended by the State Task Force on Common Ownership Communities (Condominiums, Homeowner Associations and Cooperatives) would require a fee by members to pay for community services. Senate Bill 409/HB 890 would establish an office of Climate Change within the Maryland Department of the Environment to implement activities relating to the establishment of statewide greenhouse gas emissions limits. The last item, HB 493, would allow the County Municipal tax differential to apply to the ad valorem taxes levied by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) where duplication of (municipal) services exist. Greenbelt residents would benefit since property tax payers pay the recreation portion of the MNCPPC tax.

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery

March 18, 7:37 p.m., 6100 block of Breezewood Drive, a woman was walking to a residence when a young black man wearing a black hooded jacket and dark pants approached her, grabbed her purse from her shoulder and fled on foot.

Burglaries

March 16, 3:58 p.m., 6400 block of Ivy Lane, a witness advised police that a black male, 6' tall with a stocky build, a beard and a mustache, wearing a grey shirt and dark pants with possibly an unknown accent entered a secured work area in an office building and attempted to take two laptop computers. When confronted by an employee the suspect fled.

March 19, 4:03 p.m., 400 block Ridge Road, it was reported that unknown person(s) broke into several basement rooms.

March 20, 2:16 p.m., 6500 block of Springcrest Drive, an attempted burglary was reported. Unknown person(s) tampered with the rear basement door of a residence but failed entry.

Burglary Arrest

March 20, 12:19 a.m., Beltway Plaza Mall, a 14 -year-old Greenbelt youth was found inside the mall by security officers after closing. He attempted to flee but was detained and police were called. Investigation found that the youth had entered by breaking an access door. He was arrested for second degree burglary, malicious destruction and trespass and released to a parent pending

action by the Juvenile Justice System.

Drug Arrest

March 18, unit block of Lakeside Drive, officers responded to a report of someone attempting to break into a residence. A 20-year-old Lakeside resident was located at the front door of the home. Investigation revealed that the man thought he was at his residence. He was found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia and was arrested for that possession and released on citation pending trial.

March 21, 4:34 p.m., 7400 block Greenbelt Road, a Greenbelt East male resident was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana after being observed in a parking lot by an officer, the man was released on citation pending trial.

Vehicle Crimes

Two vehicles were reported stolen. A 1995 Jeep Cherokee taken from the 7800 block of Hanover Parkway was recovered the same date in Frederick County on Cimarron Court. A white 1999 Plymouth Caravan, Maryland tag 904M382 was taken from the 6000 block of Hanover Parkway.

Thefts, attempted thefts and vandalism to vehicles were reported in the 6500 block of Capitol Drive, 6200 block of Springhill Court, 8000 block of Mandan Road, 7700 block of Hanover Parkway, unit block of Crescent Road, 6500 block of Lake Park Drive, 6400 block of Ivy Lane and the 6200 block of Springhill Drive.



Two vehicles were involved in a collision on Edmonston Road (Kenilworth Ave. extended) north of Cherrywood Lane on Thursday morning, March 22. – photo by Bill Cornett

Seat Belt Enforcement Program Starts April 3

by MPO Scott Kaiser, Greenbelt Police

The Greenbelt Police Department will be one of the police agencies in Prince George’s County participating in the 2007 Maryland Chiefs Challenge. The Chiefs Challenge is a two-month campaign running from April 3 through June 3 focusing on increasing seat belt/safety seat usage in the state. In Prince George’s County, close to 32 percent of fatally injured drivers were unrestrained. Focusing on increased seat belt/safety seat usage, law enforcement officials are hoping to drastically reduce these numbers. Officers from the Greenbelt Police Department made over 100 arrests resulting from traffic stops during the 2006 challenge. Several guns were taken off the street and large quantities of illegal drugs were seized.

Educational seminars will also be conducted, child safety seats will be checked, schools will be visited and surveys will be completed. Public safety ads will be released often. The intent is not punishment by issuing tickets but to make motorists think twice about not buckling up, hopefully preventing injury and saving lives.

Prevent Identity Theft

Identity theft remains a top concern for consumers, although they are not taking immediate steps to prevent it, according to new data from the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC). “During tax season we tend to gather up all our pay stubs, receipts for charitable donations, loan information and much more and often leave the information unattended in a folder at our homes or offices,” says Michelle Boykins, director of communications at NCPC. “This information is ripe for the taking by burglars and others who enter your home legally or illegally.”

Identity theft can take many forms. Dumpster divers gather personal information from discarded financial statements while sophisticated con artists use the web to send out fraudulent emails “phishing” for social security numbers and credit card numbers by posing as legitimate businesses or financial institutions.

Identity theft can be prevented.

- Lock up personal information – tax information, previous tax returns, bank statements and unpaid bills – even at home.
- Destroy or shred documents that don’t need to be kept for long periods.
- Don’t respond to requests to verify personal information unless the contact with a legitimate business or financial institution was initiated by the person receiving the call.
- Check one’s credit report. The law entitles everyone to at least one free report a year from each major credit bureau.
- If a person suspects information is compromised, report it immediately. File a police report in case there is a need to provide proof of the crime and file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at its website (www.consumer.gov/idtheft).

For more information about how to prevent identity theft, visit the National Crime Prevention Council’s website at www.ncpc.org.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

Police Department Asks for Information

On Saint Patrick’s Day, Saturday, March 17 officers responded to a report of a shooting victim inside the pictured vehicle in the parking lot of Greenway Center. The vehicle, a grey 2002 Chevrolet Tahoe SUV, was parked between the Wendy’s restaurant and the Old Navy clothing store. The victim, Emmanuel Reginald Etheridge, 33, of Laurel, was later pronounced dead. The incident occurred between the hours of 6:25 and 7:40 p.m. Police are asking that anyone who may have witnessed the vehicle and/or victim in the area or anyone who may have any information related to this incident contact the Greenbelt Police Department’s Criminal Investigation Unit at 240-542-2110.



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HANOVER continued from page 1

tried to persuade FCP that it was hard for the city to get excited about more rental units in the Greenbelt area. Some even urged FCP to think about condo conversion for the entire property.

Mayor Judith Davis argued for more moderate rate senior rentals, rather than market rate. Considering the FCP position, she also suggested that, at least, the option to possible conversion to either condo or co-op be considered down the road (say, in five to 10 years).

Councilmember Rodney Roberts suggested that the market analysis for cooperative units did not reflect the relatively healthy market for co-ops in Greenbelt and that he did not see enough benefits coming from the project to warrant city support. He noted his request for a covenant on the property specifying for-sale units.

Councilmember Leta Mach positioned herself close to the mayor and Roberts by suggesting a provision that upon resale of the property by FCP, the property would be required to go to owner-occupied status for the units. Her reason for this approach was to match the business model that FCP is apparently following by their purchase and renovation of the rental project. She suggested there would likely be a future FCP decision to sell the property to recoup their investment. Councilmember Edward Putens also seemed to support that approach.

City Interest?

Several councilmembers, in their suggestions to FCP, seemed to be looking for an agreement that would allow, at some time in the future, for possible city purchase of the senior building for use as a Green Ridge House type of project. Although McLaughlin cautioned council that the Green Ridge financial module (with federal and state subsidy support) is no longer available, council felt there might be other models to consider.

Mach suggested that FCP investigate Federal Home Loan Bank Board programs that may be available. Rice indicated he understood and could agree with some of the objectives being articulated by members of council. He was not sure, however, how they would be able to craft an

agreement to accomplish those objectives. He said they would be happy to explore those areas further. He noted that the suggested provisions would be difficult for larger projects but that their project is smaller and in a good location.

At this time no specific plans exist for the senior housing project. Taub noted that FCP would not contemplate specific plans until issues with the proposed zoning text amendment were addressed with the city. A large aerial photo of the site and adjacent properties was available, which had been used to discuss the general site issues.

Location

FCP showed council the proposed site for the senior building, at the present location of the pool and clubhouse. FCP also pointed out the general location where the clubhouse would be relocated. Also noted was the proximity of the site to the recently acquired "Sunrise" property.

Council advised FCP representatives that the city has no plans for improvements to the Sunrise property. It is among several in Greenbelt possibly considered as "Forest Preserve" designations by the city's Forest Preserve Task Force.

Turnbull and Touchet, representing the Friends of Still Creek, used this opportunity to point out to FCP and council the proximity of the headwaters of Still Creek to the site in Greenbelt East. They said they did not see any adverse impact from the planned development but were following the FCP plans with interest to assure that any possible impacts were quickly addressed. They noted that the management of The Hanover were supportive of a Friends of Still Creek clean-up several weeks earlier.

In wrapping up the worksession, FCP promised to try to develop a concept that could meet the objectives (i.e., some kind of owner-occupied type of covenant) expressed by council; provide for DSP review and approval by Greenbelt and outline the pros and cons involved in a possible annexation of the FCP property into the City of Greenbelt.

Depending upon the results of that exploration, council would meet again with FCP.

Wildlife Refuge Offers Birds and Flowers

At the National Wildlife Visitor Center, located on Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore/Washington Parkway and Rt. 197, a guided bird walk will be held Friday April 6 from 8 to 10:30 a.m. for ages 16 and older.

On Saturday, April 7, 8:15 to 10:30 a.m. all ages are invited to the North Tract on Rt. 198 between the Baltimore/Washington Parkway and Rt. 32 for another guided bird walk. Ever been on a bird walk and been frustrated by not seeing what others see? Or never been birding at all? Come learn what birding is all about. Binoculars and field guides are recommended.

Also on Saturday, April 7, 9 to 11 a.m. all ages have an opportunity to discover the role that wild flowers play in the ecosystem and learn to identify some common species on a guided walk at the North Tract. Field guide, water, and magnifying glass recommended.

All programs are free, however

donations to the Friends of Patuxent are appreciated. Programs require advance reservations, call 301-497-5887; on the web: patuxent.fws.gov. Advise of any special needs.

Bike Decorating Registration Opens

There will be a free bike decorating workshop on Saturday, April 21 at 2 p.m. at Davis Hall, 9217 51st Avenue in College Park. Participants can make their bike into a kinetic sculpture to ride in the May 6 Boys and Girls Club parade starting at 1 p.m. at REI.

Arts Specialist Aaron Springer will lead young bike owners in building removable decorations. Bring recyclables such as cardboard, cans, string, foil, etc., to enliven the project and bring tools such as snips or staple guns.

Advance registration is needed and is open now. RSVP to info@cpae.org or 301-927-3013.

SHA STUDY continued from page 1

For the Greenbelt area, the potential for any planned extension of the Route 201 (Kenilworth Avenue) corridor to ultimately connect with the recently approved Intercounty Connector is a long-standing concern. In effect, such a connection would route a southern leg of the Intercounty Connector through Greenbelt and the USDA BARC property.

Highway officials believe that such an extension could relieve traffic on US 1. Greenbelt city officials, on the other hand, believe that such a road would bring excessive traffic into this city. Greenbelt City Councils over many, many years have consistently opposed all proposals for such an extension.

US 1, once a major interstate highway, lost much of its through traffic with the opening of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway in the 1950s and, later, the opening of I-95 in the 1970s.

Traffic Increase

However, suburbanization of the area has greatly increased the volume of traffic on this thoroughfare while very little in the way of improvements have been made over the past 50 years. The City of College Park has supported improvements to this highway.

The City of Laurel, through recent annexations and hoped-for future annexations, has taken a great interest in development taking place to the south, particularly in the planned community Konterra that developers have proposed for the former lands of the now defunct Contee Sand and Gravel Company. The Laurel City Council has urged construction of the Kenilworth Avenue extension.

Now SHA states that funding has been added to the Consolidated Transportation Program and with increased congestion in the area the project planning studies have been resumed. The study will pick up with a review of the alternatives previously developed. To this it will add new traffic studies and current development plans and update the environmental inventory and impacts. Previous and current concerns of the environmental agencies will be included in the review.

In late spring or summer SHA plans to present the results of this review and refined alternatives at an informational workshop/meeting. After that meeting it intends to prepare a draft environmental document.

Any person wishing to become involved in the planning process may do so by requesting to be listed on the project mailing list or submitting written comments. Those on the mailing list will be kept informed of project developments and the opportunity for public involvement as the study progresses.

Such requests may be made in writing by card or letter addressed to the project manager, Ms. Kameel Holmes. The address is Project Planning Division, Mail Stop C-301, State Highway Administration, P.O. Box 717, Baltimore, MD 21203-0717.

Other alternatives for being added to the mailing list are by telephone or email. The telephone numbers are 410-545-8542 or 1-800-548-5026. The email address is kholmes@sha.state.md.us.

Publlick Playhouse



Saturday,
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Dallas Black Dance Theatre

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Prince George's Publick Playhouse

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FOR THE
US 1/MD 201 CORRIDOR STUDY
FROM MD 198 TO I-95/I-495 (THE CAPITAL
BELTWAY)

IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY



This study will develop and evaluate possible improvements to the US 1/MD 201 Corridor from MD 198 to I-95/I-495 (The Capital Beltway) in Prince George's County. The project planning phase includes agency and public involvement, the review of all reasonable alternatives, including the No-Build Alternative, and an evaluation of social, economic and natural environmental impacts. It concludes with the receipt of location and design approvals if a build alternative is selected.

As a part of the public involvement activities, and consistent with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, comments are invited regarding historic properties in the project area, including standing structures and archeological resources.

Citizen involvement in the planning process is encouraged. Written comments and requests to be included on the project planning mailing list may be submitted by mail to Ms. Kameel Holmes, Project Manager, Project Planning Division, Mail Stop C-301, State Highway Administration, P.O. Box 717, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-0717, or by calling 410-545-8542 or toll-free at 1-800-548-5026, or by email at kholmes@sha.state.md.us. Those persons on the project planning mailing list will be kept informed of project developments and the opportunity for public involvement as the study progresses. Additional information on the project is provided on the State Highway Administration website at www.marylandroads.com.

March 28, 2007
A-0458

Neil J. Pederson
State Highway Administrator

Photography Club Show Is April Café Display

Although the Greenbelt Photo Club has held two previous group shows, this is the first one at the New Deal Café and will give Greenbelters the opportunity to see the hidden talent that is right here. The current show emphasizes the wide variety of the members' work. Although some pictures may appear similar at first glance, those who take a closer look will notice that each is indeed unique.

Among the photographers displaying works are Anita Woodruff, who has been the manager of the Greenbelt Photo Club for the last year. She fell in love with photography in 2003 when she first took photography classes at Prince George's Community College. She is partial to black and white and loves driving around taking pictures of unusual items. "Mostly it's junk, but I like the composition of how non-routine items look in black and white." Woodruff is currently enrolled in classes at the Capital Hill Arts Center in Washington, D.C. and believes it is important to keep abreast of new techniques in the photography world.

Leslie Brothers, a Greenbelt resident for six years, has been living in the area since attending the University of Maryland "many, many years ago. I've spent most of my working life at the Smithsonian Institution, about half of it as a horticulturist, where I've been able to develop my photographic skills with natural subjects." Brothers started learning photography using film and moved on to digital a few

years ago but recently has found a new interest in old-fashioned darkroom work.

Photography has long been a part of the life of Eva A. Choper, a Greenbelt resident since 1962. Her father was a prolific amateur photographer who built his dark room and did his own enlargement and development, at first in black and white and then in color film. In 1996 Choper and a close friend started to get involved in photography as a serious hobby. After she retired in 1999, the hobby expanded into an art form.

Nora Simon was born and grew up in Greenbelt and is a second year student at the Savannah College of Art and Design where she plans to continue to study photography. Her photographs in the show are among her first attempts at photographing at night.

An Van de Wal was born and raised in Belgium and moved to Greenbelt about five years ago. She's been photographing seriously for the last two years and hopes one day to be able to start her own photography business. Her subjects are varied – portraits, nature, fashion, events as well as some stock photography.

Tom Woods' hobby has been photography for 15 years. "It has opened my eyes to the beauty that is all around us." He prefers to take pictures of animals and nature, as opposed to people and his favorite places to take pictures are the National Zoo, the Botanical Gardens and the Arboretum.

Reception

The April art and photography exhibits at the New Deal Café will continue throughout the month. A reception for the artists/photographers will be held on Sunday, April 1 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Café. Monthly exhibits at the New Deal Café are sponsored in part by Friends of the New Deal Café Arts, with supporting grants from Prince George's County and the Prince George's Arts Council.

Photo Club

The Greenbelt Photo Club was started in 1997 as an opportunity for amateurs, professional photographers and photo enthusiasts to meet and discuss their work, share experiences, advance skills, learn how to curate exhibitions and explore exhibition opportunities in Greenbelt.

The club currently has over 40 members and meets the second Tuesday of each month in the Community Center from 7:30 to 9 p.m. The club has a different photo theme each month and members bring their photos for critiquing. Guest speakers also come to talk or demonstrate different photo techniques. Membership is open to everyone.

Flynn's Inner Landscapes Capture Twilight Moments

by Erin Whiting

The art of Maryland native Laura Flynn will be featured during April at the New Deal Café. Her exhibit, "Inner Landscapes," is composed of 12 pieces and will be displayed at the café through the month of April.

Flynn's exhibit, inspired by the landscape art of Claude Monet, John Constable and J.M.W Turner, features impressionist landscape scenes in oil, gouache and pastel. She bases her pieces on actual landscapes from pictures or from memory but uses abstraction and subjective coloring (rose-colored skies and yellow waters, for example) to express her feelings and vision of the natural world. Flynn says her art serves as a

metaphor, capturing "those twilight moments when it's neither day nor evening but something else entirely."

Flynn is a native of Maryland's Eastern shore. After living for several years in Utah and California, she moved back to Maryland a year and a half ago and is excited to be a part of the Greenbelt community. By day she is a consultant designing health and wellness programs. In her work she teaches meditation, which she says is essential to her creative process and "develops focus and sensitivity" needed when making art. As an artist she is "mostly self trained" though she studied studio art in college.

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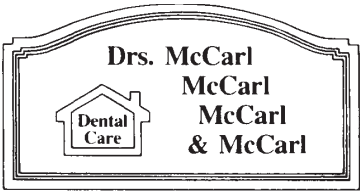
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ChEARS, a nonprofit dedicated to improving conditions in the Bay Area, is holding an Arts Fundraiser on May 6, 2007, under Greenbelt Greenman Festival. Photographers are invited to submit works for exhibition and sale at a silent auction. Please try and submit by April 2. Full details from Malise Dick, 301-313-0208 (Ekalnay@gmail.com)

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Summer Xtreme Teen Centers offer Prince George's County teens, ages 13 to 17, fun, age-appropriate activities. The centers operate on a drop-in basis and operate Monday through Friday from June 18 until July 27. Hours vary at each site.

For both programs there is a fee per participant, whether one attends six hours a day for all six weeks or select days and times only. Optional field trips and special events may be offered for additional fees. Registration for both programs begins Monday, April 2. Register via internet at www.pgprks.com, in person at any staffed recreation facility in Prince George's County, by mail or by calling 301-583-BOOK (2665).

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Advance Directives Explained in Talks

Hospice of the Chesapeake will host free living wills seminars on Tuesday, April 17 in College Park and Wednesday, April 18 in Bowie. In College Park the seminar will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 4902 Berwyn Road. The Bowie program will be from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Heartfields Assisted Living Facility, 7600 Laurel-Bowie Road.

Both locations will feature a panel of experts including Michael J. LaPenta, M.D., chief medical officer for Hospice of the Chesapeake; Erwin E. Abrams, president and CEO of Hospice of the Chesapeake; and a practicing elder law attorney in both locations – in College Park Attorney Karren Pope Onwukwe and in Bowie Attorney Jackie Byrd. The panelists will discuss living wills, advance directives and health care powers of attorney.

The seminar is free, though registration is required as space is limited. For information or to register for the College Park program call Rosemary Allender at 301-262-5082; for the Bowie program call Heartfields at 301-805-8422.

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This 2 bedroom townhome has a large yard with rail fencing and storage shed. Wide floorplan with remodeled kitchen & bath. Value! \$189,900



Your Greenbelt Specialists



FIRE continued from page 6



The front entrance and adjacent apartments on Edmonston Court had their damaged windows boarded up by emergency work crews the day after the buildings were on fire.

with battery backup. Also, a fire watch was instituted with AIMCO, the company that owns and manages Springhill Lake, hiring personnel to walk through each building and to phone in hourly reports.

The city made available the Springhill Lake Recreation Center to serve as a shelter for residents who did not wish to stay in their apartments and to provide space for AIMCO and the International Red Cross to provide assistance for those evicted from their residences. Red Cross spokesman R. G. Thompson said late Tuesday afternoon that no one had made use of the building as a shelter. He said that the Red Cross was providing credit cards to people who had lost belongings in the fire. The Red Cross will pay for those expenses. All residents forced to leave their apartments were housed with either family or friends or placed in hotels by AIMCO. Kemp said AIMCO representatives had said they would consider providing hotel space to other families on a case-by-case basis, such as for medical needs that require electricity.

Another Fire

On Tuesday at about 8 a.m. the fire department responded to yet another call of smoke and possible fire at 6200 Breezewood Court. This is a building in another nearby section of Springhill Lake which still had power. While no fire has been confirmed for that location, Kemp said that the fire department had turned off power to that and another adjacent building. According to Craze, that fire, while electrical in nature, was unrelated to the other fires and not of the same concern.

According to Greenbelt Assistant Director of Community Development Jim Sterling, a specialty electrical consulting firm was to arrive on Tuesday to troubleshoot the problem. City Manager Michael McLaughlin told the city council late Tuesday evening that it was determined that the problem was related to the rewiring of power to the buildings several years ago when each building was submetered. Sufficient corrective

Wednesday Update

At a 5:45 p.m. press conference Wednesday, March 28 held at the Prince George’s County Emergency Management trailer on Springhill Court at Springhill Lake at the scene of multiple fires, Susan Ridgeway of Apartment Investment and Management Company (AIMCO) announced that between six and 10 p.m. that evening power would be restored to apartments without electricity for the past two days, except for the six buildings damaged by fires. After restarting the power distribution system, power was to be restored one building at a time with fire officials verifying that all fire alarms remained operational.

According to Mark Brady, Prince George’s County Fire Department spokesperson, the cause of the fires was improper wiring in a submetering system installed over seven years ago. He speculated that one failure triggered subsequent failures at other locations, causing the multiple fires. For now, power will be restored circumventing the submetering system. Until a new system is installed with computerized monitoring of power flow, AIMCO will be paying for electricity. The purpose of the submetering system had been to enable each tenant to pay for electric usage in his or her apartment.

Ridgeway thanked the various county and city agencies for their help and effort. She announced that tenants who had suffered power loss would receive a three-day rent credit and \$100 to compensate for lost perishable food in refrigerators and freezers.

Ridgeway agreed with the county’s finding of improperly installed wiring. She and Brady both said that the matter was one to resolve between Springhill Lake and the subcontractor who performed the work.

Also at the press conference was Greenbelt Police Chief James Craze. On the sideline were a number of officers and City Manager Michael McLaughlin. Police Public Information Officer George Mathews said that the reported death of a 74-year-old man was not related to the power outage. He also commented on the “remarkable patience” of the affected residents of Springhill Lake.

Also on the sideline was AIMCO Vice President Patti Shwayder who commended McLaughlin for the cooperation and assistance the various city departments had rendered dur-

work was accomplished Tuesday that it was hoped power could be restored that day. However, the county inspectors were not satisfied that enough testing had been done and did not authorize power restoration.

Residents were still permitted to remain in their apartments Tuesday night if they chose, McLaughlin said. Prince George’s County emergency management has made available Ritchie Coliseum for use as a shelter for residents who opt

to stay there but McLaughlin thought few if any would take advantage of it.

Tuesday evening the area was still filled with fire trucks, police vehicles and resource recovery vehicles. One family was removing possessions from a damaged ground floor apartment. Other residents were sitting on their balconies on that warm day or out on the sidewalks in clusters, particularly around fire equipment.

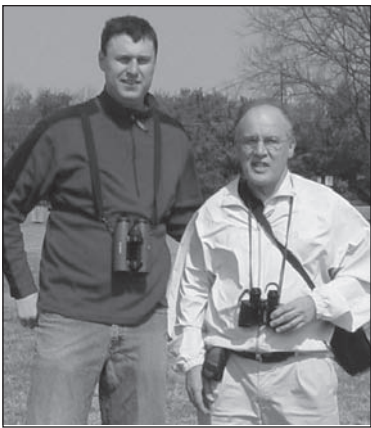
Barbara Likowski also contributed to this article.

Springtime Is a Great Time For Local Bird Watching

by Peter Blank

Spring is here and it’s a perfect time to prepare to go birding. Many of the spring migrants have already left their wintering grounds in the tropics and will be arriving in Greenbelt soon.

I am leading three walks in the spring for the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) Woodlands Committee. They will be April 28, May 5, and May 12 from 7 to 9 a.m. We’ll meet at the Northway fields and go birding near the fields and in the adjacent woods. If there is interest, we may also go down to Buddy Attick Park or to Greenbelt Park.



Peter Blank, left, and Don Comis

Equipment Helps

I am often asked what kind of equipment is necessary to go birding. While in my opinion the most important ingredient is enthusiasm, here are a few items that may make it easier for you to enjoy the birds.

Binoculars are an essential item for anyone who wants to look at birds up close. I recommend that beginners buy 7x35 or 8x42 binoculars. The first number is the power and tells you how many times the image will be enlarged. The second number is the diameter of the front lenses. This tells you how much light will be gathered. More experienced birders may like higher power binoculars. I use 10x42 because I like to be able to zoom farther into the bird to get more clarity. But this comes at a price because the field of view is smaller and the binoculars are heavier. I do not suggest the small (compact) binoculars for those who plan to spend a lot of time birding. These binoculars often don’t let in much light, but are usually lighter in weight. However, some people may prefer lighter weight binoculars to more light gathered. It’s really an individual preference.

Eastern North America Field Guide because it is easier to put in your pocket and to carry in the field. The larger book that covers the whole country is also a great guide for those who want more details on each species or for those who want to travel to the west to do some birding. You also can’t go wrong with an Audubon or a Peterson Field Guide to Birds.

Bird Songs

Learning bird sounds can be incredibly rewarding and can make your bird watching a lot easier since you don’t always have to find the bird and see it. I can think of no better way to learn bird sounds than to just go outside and listen. Identify each individual’s species and listen to the sounds that it makes. Do this enough times and you’ll find you recognize more sounds than you thought were possible. For those who want to go further in their studies of bird sounds, a number of good recordings are out there on the market. I recommend the “Stokes Field Guide to Bird Songs: Eastern Region.” It has three CDs of recordings of every bird you’re likely to encounter in the East.

I hope these tips are helpful and I hope that you’re able to get outside and enjoy the birds this spring. For more information about local birding events, check out the Prince George’s Audubon Society website (<http://www.pgaudubon.org/>).

Happy birding!

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